# Pet Tarantula Care Guide

This guide provides a comprehensive outline for proper care of a pet tarantula, addressing critical factors like housing conditions, humidity levels, dietary needs, and handling safety, to ensure a healthy and comfortable life for the spider.

### Step 1: Habitat Setup

Choose an appropriate terrarium that is at least three times the leg-span of the tarantula in both width and height. Add a layer of substrate, such as coconut fiber or peat moss, to maintain adequate humidity and facilitate burrowing.

### Step 2: Temperature Control

Maintain the terrarium at a temperature between 75 and 85 degrees Fahrenheit using a heating pad or lamp. Monitor with a reliable thermometer and adjust as needed to provide a consistent and comfortable environment.

### Step 3: Humidity Maintenance

Ensure the terrarium humidity level stays between 60% and 80%. Use a hygrometer to monitor levels. Lightly mist the substrate as needed, but avoid making it too damp, as over-humidification can lead to bacterial and fungal growth.

### Step 4: Diet & Feeding

Feed your tarantula live insects, such as crickets or roaches, every 2 to 3 days. The amount and frequency will depend on the tarantula's size and species. Remove uneaten prey after 24 hours to prevent stress and potential harm to your spider.

### Step 5: Safe Handling

Handle your tarantula gently and infrequently to minimize stress. Use slow movements and never hold the spider from a significant height, as falls can be fatal. Always wash your hands before and after handling to prevent the spread of bacteria.

## General Notes

### Water Provision

Provide a shallow water dish with fresh water at all times, ensuring it's shallow enough to prevent drowning. Change the water and clean the dish regularly to maintain hygiene.

### Health Monitoring

Regularly check your tarantula for signs of stress or illness, such as a lack of appetite, lethargy, or unusual molting patterns. Seek advice from an exotic veterinarian if you notice any concerning symptoms.

### Molting Care

During the molting process, avoid feeding and handling your tarantula. Ensure the humidity is at the correct level to facilitate a successful molt. Provide a stress-free environment by minimizing disturbances.